

## GREEK ROMANIZATION

The comments the Library received on the draft revision to the Greek romanization table that appeared in *Cataloging Service Bulletin*, no. 105, obviously indicate that the Anglo-American library community in the United States is not yet ready to adopt a totally revised table that reflects an internationally approved system. The Library of Congress has therefore decided not to make any changes to the Greek table at this time. However, we look forward to such time as the Library can prepare bibliographic records with the Greek characters included, using Unicode, and can provide the romanization of those characters through computer program.

At that time we would propose to make the single change of eliminating note 3 (regarding the rough breathing sign) from the current romanization table, so the table would then reflect the orthographic changes made by the Greek government to the language in 1982. We are woefully out of date in the United States with changes made elsewhere in the world. As you are probably aware, this change was not incorporated into the romanization table when the orthographic changes took effect because of political differences within the U.S. with the Greek presidential decree that promulgated the changes.

Although the elimination of note 3 in the current table will have an impact on headings existing in the file at that time, guidelines for how to deal with orthographic reform may be found in *Library of Congress Rule Interpretations* (cf. Index under Orthographic reforms). The Library has done a quick analysis of the access points in its current modern Greek bibliographic records and found 23,440 records that contain an access point romanized with the letter "h" as the first letter of a word, indicating a rough breathing sign. Collecting the access points and deduping them resulted in around 15,000 access points divided approximately as follows:

<i>MARC tag</i>	<i>Potential no. of access points to change</i>
100	345
110	210
111	47
245	11,964
410	5
440	822
600	255
610	204
611	1
630	17
651	28
700	305
710	502
711	13
730	8
800	46
810	100
830	271

These figures are on the high side, as they include some headings that would not be changed but would continue to be established in a conventional English-language form, e.g., Homer. They also include some non-Greek headings that were retrieved under the parameters used in the analysis. The Library did not limit its analysis to post-1982 modern Greek works. Thus, there may be some headings that would not undergo change as they have not been used on works published after orthographic reform. This is probably most common in personal name headings.